Distribution of Central Revenue to States

4317. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Eleventh Finance Commission has changed the formula for distribution of Central Revenue to the States;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this has turned some States upside down; and

(c) if so, the details of the States' share for the last year with the Eleventh Finance Commission formula and with the Tenth Commission formula?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Eleventh Finance Commission has determined the *inter-se* percentage share of States in Central taxes and duties on the basis of population, income (distance method), area, index of infrastructure, tax effort and fiscal discipline. The criteria and norms adopted by the Commission have been applied uniformly to all States. Finance Commissions laydown the criteria for determining the share of transfers between States, from time to time, keeping in view their assessment of the States' requirements, and the need for horizontal equity.

(c) The total estimated transfers recommended by Tenth Finance Commission and Eleventh Finance Commission are given in the Annexure *[See* Appendix 195, Annexure No. 42]

Shortage of small Currency Notes

4318. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that currency notes of smaller denomination are in acute shortage;

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken in the matter;

(c) whether there are any plans to introduce plastic currency notes on account of its durability; and

(d) if so, by when the plastic currency notes will be made available in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Role of middlemen at Inland Container Depot, Tughtaqabad

4319. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the middlemen charge the trader heavily to get routine information in regard to clearance of trade items from the Inland Container Depot, at Tughlaqabad; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to keep middlemen out of Inland Container Depot?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No case of any middlemen found operating at Inland Container Depot, Tughlaqabad has been noticed.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Rates of interest by NABARD on Farmers' loan

† 4320. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rates of interest have not been brought down on the loans provided to the farmers by NABARD;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.